

From: Al Hillman
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/21/02 3:05pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sirs:

Please read the attached letter on the subject. As a retired person I am not happy what all this has done to the tech stocks and my portfolio.

Thank you,

Albert J. Hillman

**2410 Pointe Road
Schofield, WI 54476**

January 17, 2002

Attorney General Ashcroft
Dept. of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

As a Microsoft supporter, I would like to state my opinions regarding the Department of Justice settlement and have them recorded in the *Federal Register*, pursuant to the Tunney Act.

I feel that the agreement was fair and reasonable, and was obviously extensive enough for nine of the states, including Wisconsin, to approve. I do not see what more can be gained by further action, and would like to see this case put behind us. The issues that brought about the case in the first place have been addressed, and provisions have been put in place to handle possible future problems.

Under the terms, Microsoft agreed to grant computer manufacturers restructure Windows licensing so as to allow non-Microsoft programs to be distributed with Windows. This means that Microsoft will allow the competition to use Windows to launch products that will seek to undo the popularity of Microsoft products. Most Microsoft opposition agrees that Microsoft's current concessions are acceptable, but they argue that provisions are not sufficient to deter future litigation. I would like to point out that a technical oversight committee has been put in place to check Microsoft's codes and books, and that the competition will be allowed to sue Microsoft directly in the event that it fails to comply with the terms of the settlement.

In short, the current and possible future problems have been accounted for, and I would like to see this case put behind us. The settlement should be granted a chance to prove itself before it is written off as a failure. It has been three years in the making, and deserves at least that. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Albert J. Hillman

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